

SIXTH SESSION HURON COUNTY COUNCIL

Goderich, Ontario.
May 6th, 2009.

Huron County Council met in the Council Chambers on Wednesday May 6th, at 9:03 a.m.

Chief Administrative Officer Adams called the roll and all members were present except Councillor B. Dykstra.

Warden K. Oke welcomed the members to the Session and the Page, Laura Bowman.

A moment of silence was requested by Warden Oke in remembrance of former Warden Jack Coleman. Mr. Coleman was Warden of Huron County in 1998 and was involved in municipal politics for 20 years.

Warden Oke advised of the Grand Opening of the Huron County Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Depot at the Mid-Huron Landfill, in Holmesville today. The official ribbon cutting ceremony is at 11:15 a.m.

Warden Oke reviewed his itinerary for the month of April.

Director of Social Services Overboe introduced Barbara Hall, Manager of Housing. Ms Hall commenced her employment with the County of Huron on the 29th of April.

Councillor M. Demaray introduced Laura Bowman, a Grade 8 student at Wallace Public School.

MOTION: 46-09

Moved by: Councillor D. Johnston and Seconded by: Councillor M. Scott:

THAT:

The minutes of the previous Sessions; being April 1 and April 14, 2009 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

There were no declarations of pecuniary conflict of interest.

PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS:

COUNCILLOR ISSUES:

Councillor B. Siemon requested the speed limit in Huron East on the County Roads entering urban areas be gradually reduced from 90 km. to 70 km. per hour rather than the current speed limit of 90 km. to 50 km. per hour. Warden Oke asked Councillor Siemon if it was acceptable to him for Director of Public Works Laurie to prepare a report for a future Committee of the Whole meeting. Councillor Siemon agreed.

Councillor N. Vincent requested Council's support to lobby the CTV to reconsider closing its Windsor and Wingham stations effective August 2009. There was some discussion surrounding the A Channel being part of Huron County's heritage of news being collected and broadcast.

MOTION: 47-09

Moved by: Councillor N. Vincent and Seconded by: Councillor D.J. Shewfelt:
THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron appeal to the CTV to reconsider its decision to close its Windsor and Wingham stations;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The County of Huron considers the broadcast of the local news on the Wingham station to be paramount in media communication to its residents as it has been broadcasting from Wingham to the communities within Southwestern Ontario since November 18th, 1955.

CARRIED

Councillor B. MacLellan suggested that a letter from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care pertaining to the Medical Officer of Health's wages be forwarded to Treasury and HR for their information. CAO Adams confirmed that it had been done.

Councillor M. Demaray questioned the Health Unit's tactics of determining if cigarettes are being sold to minors. Councillor B. MacLellan explained the merit in using young people to try and purchase cigarettes without identification. There is no other way to deter commercial businesses from selling cigarettes to minors.

Inspector Dan Grant of the Huron Detachment of the OPP introduced Detective Superintendent D.J. (Dave) Cardwell, Director of Criminal Investigation Services with the OPP from Barrie. Detective Superintendent Cardwell delivered a very heart felt speech regarding the community leadership received from the Mayor of South Huron; being our current Warden during a very difficult time in July 2007. The OPP were investigating a double homicide in the municipality of South Huron at that time. Detective Superintendent Cardwell advised that the message delivered by Mayor Oke to the citizens of his community was to try and remain calm and for the citizens to put their faith and trust in their police to find a resolve to these horrific crimes. Warden/Mayor Oke was honoured by the OPP for his exceptional leadership to his municipality and its residents. A plaque was presented to Warden Oke and pictures were taken. Warden Oke was given a standing ovation from the members of the County of Huron Council, members of staff and those present.

Warden Oke thanked Detective Superintendent Cardwell for the plaque and his kind words. He acknowledged the difficult time that he and the rest of the residents of South Huron were placed in at that time. He stated that as the Head of Council there was nothing that could have prepared him for those days in July 2007. Warden Oke was grateful to the OPP for the professional job they did under such stressful and emotional times.

CORRESPONDENCE:

CAO Adams advised Council of the upcoming Western Ontario Conference held in London by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in November. The format has changed this year in that the conference is to be held on Wednesday November 25th and Thursday November 26th, 2009.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

The reports of the Board of Health dated March 24 and April 8, 2009 were presented.

MOTION: 48-09

Moved by: Councillor B. Dowson and Seconded by: Councillor B. Siemon:
THAT:

The reports of the Board of Health dated March 24 and April 8, 2009 be received and appear in the printed minutes as Report #22.

CARRIED

Councillor B. MacLellan questioned the Good Food Box program and the potential for expansion to include home delivery to the program and the costing therewith. It was confirmed for Councillor B. MacLellan that the costing for home delivery is prohibitive and Appendix B to the Health Unit Report does not recommend home delivery at this time.

Councillor D. Shewfelt requested an update from the Chair of the Board of Health Committee, Councillor B. MacLellan on the Health Unit's activities.

Councillor/Chair MacLellan reported that since Dr. Cameron has been hired he has not received one call from staff. Councillor MacLellan further commended Dr. Cameron and her staff at the Health Unit for the positive information and updates regarding the H1N1 Influenza communicated to Council and the public. Councillor D. Shewfelt agreed that it appeared things were truly under control with the Health Unit and he passed along his commendations as well.

Councillor J. Bezaire requested CAO Adams to confirm the communication to staff regarding the appointment of Dr. Cameron as the Medical Officer of Health for Huron County. Apparently the public were in possession of this information prior to the Health Unit staff.

CAO Adams responded advising that unfortunately a local radio station had broadcast the information prior to the completion of the County Council meeting on April 1st, confirming Dr. Cameron's appointment. The method used to communicate to staff is the County's Intranet – First Class. It was communicated to staff the afternoon following confirmation at County Council.

Warden Oke reiterated what had transpired and identified it as a problem in timing. He also advised that he has had some positive comments from the staff at the Health Unit.

The report of the Committee of the Whole – Day 1 dated April 8, 2009 was presented.

MOTION: 49-09

Moved by: Councillor J. Fergusson and Seconded by: Councillor D. Kelly:

THAT:

The report of the Committee of the Whole – Day 1 dated April 8, 2009 be adopted as presented and appear in the printed minutes as Report #23.

CARRIED

The report of the Library Board dated April 14, 2009 was presented.

Prior to the Motion being considered, Councillor G. Robertson questioned the composition of the Library Board. He outlined the composition of the Board currently consists of six members of Council plus the Warden and six members from the public. Councillor Robertson stated that if the Board was decreased to two members from the public and three members of Council including the Warden, there would be a considerable savings to the County.

MOTION:

Moved by: Councillor G. Robertson and Seconded by: Councillor N. Rintoul:

THAT:

The Council of the County of Huron agree to reduce the numbers of members on the Huron County Library Board to two members from the public and three members from County Council as per the Public Libraries Act and as amended by the Government Efficiency Act 2002;

AND FURTHER THAT:

The Library Board only meet ten times per year; this action is to take place effective in the next term of office.

Councillor D. Kelly who is also the Chair of the Library Board requested that this Motion be considered when the County Librarian returns from her vacation.

Councillor B. Siemon stated this would be reviewed in the Service Delivery Review.

Councillor J. Bezaire stated that before taking jobs away from the members of the public, consideration be given to discussing with them the possibility of them volunteering to be members of the Library Board.

Councillor/Chair Kelly advised that included as Appendix B to the Library Board minutes is a report regarding the Library Board Composition.

MOTION: 50-09

Moved by: Councillor D. Kelly and Seconded by: Councillor J. Fergusson:

THAT:

The Motion to reduce the number of members on the Library Board be deferred until County Librarian Beth Ross is in attendance at a future meeting.

CARRIED

MOTION: 51-09

Moved by: Councillor D. Kelly and Seconded by: Councillor B. MacLellan:

THAT:

The report of the Library Board dated April 14, 2009 be received and appear in the printed minutes as Report #24.

CARRIED

The report of the Committee of the Whole Council – Day 2 dated April 14, 2009 was presented.

MOTION: 52-09

Moved by: Councillor B. Dowson and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich:

THAT:

The report of the Committee of the Whole – Day 2 dated April 14, 2009 be adopted as presented and appear in the printed Minutes as Report #25.

CARRIED

INQUIRIES:

There were no inquiries.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business at this meeting.

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MOTION: 53-09

Moved by: Councillor J. Grace and Seconded by: Councillor D. Kelly:

THAT:

A vote of appreciation be extended to Laura Bowman, for acting as Page at the Session of Council today.

CARRIED

Warden Oke offered Page Laura Bowman an opportunity to speak. Page Bowman thanked Council for the opportunity to be the Page and to attend this session of County Council. She felt it was a valuable learning experience.

PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:

There were no questions.

BY-LAWS:

MOTION: 54-09

Moved by: Councillor N. Vincent

and Seconded by: Councillor B. Van Diepenbeek:

THAT:

Leave be given to introduce the following By-law:

By-law No. 10-2009 - To appoint a County Clerk for the Corporation of the County of Huron.

CARRIED

MOTION: 55-09

Moved by: Councillor B. Siemon and Seconded by: Councillor D. Shewfelt:

THAT:

By-law No. 10-2009, be given a first and second reading.

CARRIED

MOTION: 56-09

Moved by: Councillor J. Seili and Seconded by: Councillor M. Scott:

THAT:

By-law No. 10-2009, as read a first and second time, be passed.

CARRIED

MOTION: 57-09

Moved by: Councillor G. Robertson and Seconded by: Councillor D. Johnston:

THAT:

By-law No. 10-2009, be given a third reading in accordance with Part 7 of the Procedural By-law for the County of Huron, Section 25, Subsection 2.

CARRIED

MOTION: 58-09

Moved by: Councillor J. Grace and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich:

THAT:

By-law No. 10-2009, as read a third time, be passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, and the Seal of the Corporation affixed thereto.

CARRIED

"IN CAMERA"

MOTION: 59-09

Moved by: Councillor J. Grace and Seconded by: Councillor J. Fergusson:

THAT:

Council do now go into a closed session at 10:10 a.m. under Section 229 of the Municipal Act, 2001 as amended to discuss an item which relates labour relations or employee negotiations and the following staff members remain in attendance: Larry C. Adams and Darcy Michaud.

CARRIED

MOITON: 60-09

Moved by: Councillor J. Grace and Seconded by: Councillor M. Scott:

THAT:

Council rise from the closed session at 10:30 a.m. with no report.

CARRIED

MOTION: 61-09

Moved by: Councillor G. Robertson and Seconded by: Councillor J. Dietrich:

THAT:

County Council do now adjourn at 10:32 a.m. to meet on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 or at the call of the Warden and Clerk.

CARRIED

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The Session closed with the singing of O Canada.

Warden Ken Oke

Clerk Barbara L. Wilson